



Alston Middle School

500 Bryan Street
Summerville, SC 29483

Grades	6-8 Middle School	
Enrollment	924 Students	
Principal	Thad Schmenk	843-873-3890
Superintendent	Joseph R. Pye	843-873-2901
Board Chair	Frances Townsend	843-873-1341

THE STATE OF SOUTH CAROLINA 2012 ANNUAL SCHOOL REPORT CARD

RATINGS OVER 5-YEAR PERIOD

YEAR	ABSOLUTE RATING	GROWTH RATING
2012	Good	Excellent
2011	Good	Good
2010	Good	Good
2009	Average	Average
2008	Average	Below Average

DEFINITIONS OF SCHOOL RATING TERMS

- Excellent – School performance substantially exceeds the standards for progress toward the 2020 SC Performance Vision
- Good – School performance exceeds the standards for progress toward the 2020 SC Performance Vision
- Average – School performance meets the standards for progress toward the 2020 SC Performance Vision
- Below Average – School is in jeopardy of not meeting the standards for progress toward the 2020 SC Performance Vision
- At-Risk – School performance fails to meet the standards for progress toward the 2020 SC Performance Vision

SOUTH CAROLINA PERFORMANCE VISION

By 2020 all students will graduate with the knowledge and skills necessary to compete successfully in the global economy, participate in a democratic society and contribute positively as members of families and communities.

<http://ed.sc.gov>
<http://www.eoc.sc.gov>

Percent of Student PASS Records Matched for Purpose of Computing Growth Rating

Percent of students tested in 2011-12 whose 2010-11 test scores were located

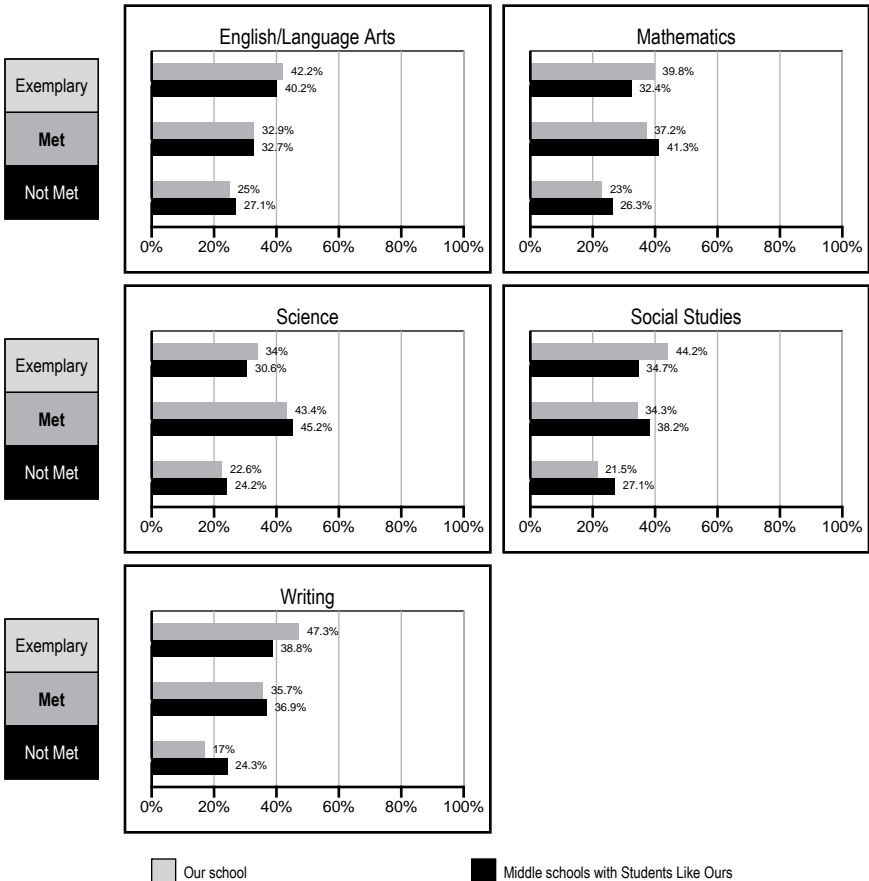
96.8%

ABSOLUTE RATINGS OF MIDDLE SCHOOLS WITH STUDENTS LIKE OURS*

Excellent	Good	Average	Below Average	At-Risk
8	23	22	0	0

* Ratings are calculated with data available by 11/07/2012.

Palmetto Assessment of State Standards (PASS)



* Middle schools with Students Like Ours are middle schools with poverty indices of no more than 5% above or below the index for the school.

Definition of Critical Terms

Exemplary	"Exemplary" means the student demonstrated exemplary performance in meeting the grade level standard.
Met	"Met" means the student met the grade level standard.
Not Met	"Not Met" means that the student did not meet the grade level standard.

Abbreviations for Missing Data

N/A–Not Applicable N/AV–Not Available N/C–Not Collected N/R–Not Reported I/S–Insufficient Sample

End of Course Tests

Percent of tests with scores of 70 or above on:	Our Middle School	Middle Schools with Students Like Ours
Algebra 1/Math for the Technologies 2	100.0%	97.3%
English 1	100.0%	91.1%
Physical Science	N/A	N/A
US History and the Constitution	N/A	N/A
All Subjects	100.0%	96.6%

School Profile

	Our School	Change from Last Year	Middle Schools with Students Like Ours	Median Middle School
Students (n=924)				
Students enrolled in high school credit courses (grades 7 & 8)	41.9%	Down from 45.8%	34.2%	22.9%
Retention rate	1.0%	Up from 0.6%	0.7%	0.8%
Attendance rate	96.5%	Up from 94.9%	96.2%	96.2%
Served by gifted and talented program	N/AV	N/AV	N/AV	N/AV
With disabilities other than speech	N/AV	N/AV	N/AV	N/AV
Older than usual for grade	N/AV	N/AV	N/AV	N/AV
Out-of-school suspensions or expulsions for violent and/or criminal offenses	2.1%	Up from 0.9%	0.8%	0.5%
Annual dropout rate	0.0%	Down from 0.3%	0.0%	0.0%
Teachers (n=55)				
Teachers with advanced degrees	50.9%	Down from 52.7%	61.9%	61.3%
Continuing contract teachers	N/AV	N/AV	N/AV	N/AV
Teachers returning from previous year	84.0%	Up from 80.9%	88.6%	86.7%
Teacher attendance rate	93.4%	Down from 94.4%	95.2%	95.2%
Average teacher salary*	\$42,952	Down 0.7%	\$47,022	\$46,422
Professional development days/teacher	8.5 days	Down from 9.6 days	10.5 days	10.0 days
School				
Principal's years at school	1.0	Down from 16.0	4.0	4.0
Student-teacher ratio in core subjects	25.5 to 1	Up from 23.9 to 1	23.0 to 1	22.0 to 1
Prime instructional time	88.4%	Down from 88.5%	90.0%	90.1%
Opportunities in the arts	Excellent	No Change	Good	Good
SACS accreditation	Yes	No Change	Yes	Yes
Parents attending conferences	96.2%	Down from 97.5%	97.9%	98.8%
Character development program	Good	Down from Excellent	Good	Good
Dollars spent per pupil**	\$6,249	Down 8.1%	\$7,078	\$7,245
Percent of expenditures for instruction**	63.0%	Up from 60.6%	64.1%	63.1%
Percent of expenditures for teacher salaries**	61.8%	Up from 59.6%	61.7%	60.9%

* Includes current year teachers contracted for 185 or more days.

** Prior year audited financial data are reported.

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Report of Principal and School Improvement Council

Alston Middle School, located off of Highway 78 in Summerville, SC, is an outstanding arts-infused school where the academics, arts, and athletics come together to promote student growth and create a wonderful learning environment. Alston Middle School offers a rigorous, relevant, and challenging curriculum that advances the learning of all of our students. We are dedicated to providing a safe environment in order to maximize the academic, creative, athletic, and emotional potential of each student.

We are proud of our students, staff, parents, business partners, and community members who have supported our efforts this year. Our combined efforts earned us many awards and enabled our students to grow. AMS received the Palmetto Silver Award for student achievement for the 2010-2011 school year. The AMS Girls' Robotics Team won 1st place for robot design at the 2012 Robotics Competition. The AMS QUEST team won 2nd place in Math-Level 1 (6th grade), 2nd place in Social Studies-Level 1 (6th grade), and 2nd place in the Overall Level 1. Furthermore, a healthy lifestyle and nutrition program (CHEFS) was implemented through the support of the Greater Summerville/ Dorchester County Chamber of Commerce.

Students at AMS also enjoy many opportunities to enhance their educational experience through the arts, sports, and electives. We offer classes in piano, guitar, dance, physical education, band, strings, chorus, visual arts, theater, and Spanish. Also, students have the opportunity to participate in QUEST academic teams, Robotics, the Geography Bee, and additional clubs, sports, and activities. The AMS theater students performed the musical, Fiddler on the Roof. Strings students performed in several public concerts and won numerous awards. The AMS Concert Choir received an Excellent Rating at the SCMEA Choral Festival. The AMS Wrestling Team placed second this season. Our AMS Girl's Softball Team played an undefeated regular season and placed 2nd overall in the tournament.

For the 2011-2012 school year, we worked toward meeting the needs of each individual child. Data collected via various means was used by caring teachers to determine overall and individual student needs. The results of these diagnostic measures help us to implement interventions and differentiation in all subject areas resulting in student learning and growth. Our plans for the 2012-2113 school year include maximizing instruction and increasing communication.

Like many schools in our district, we face challenges. We operate with fewer funds, tackle new initiatives, and address the obstacles of a rapidly changing world. Armed with a formidable PTA Board, a fully-engaged teaching staff, a School Improvement Council, and a host of community stakeholders, our school will continue to radiate and develop into a brilliant learning community.

Thad Schmenk, Principal

Lisa Hamilton, SIC Chairperson

Evaluations by Teachers, Students and Parents

	Teachers	Students*	Parents*
Number of surveys returned	51	267	147
Percent satisfied with learning environment	90.2%	74.0%	80.6%
Percent satisfied with social and physical environment	92.2%	74.7%	79.3%
Percent satisfied with school-home relations	72.0%	89.1%	77.4%

* Only students at the highest middle school grade level and their parents were included.

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ESEA/Federal Accountability Rating System

In July 2012, the South Carolina Department of Education was granted a waiver from several accountability requirements of the federal Elementary and Secondary Education Act (ESEA). This waiver allowed SC to replace the former pass/fail system with one that utilizes more of the statewide assessments already in place and combine these subject area results with graduation rate (in high schools) to determine if each school met the target or made progress toward the target. This analysis results in a letter grade for the school rather than the pass/fail system of previous years. For a detailed review of the matrix for each school and districts that determined the letter grade, please use the following link: <http://ed.sc.gov/data/eSEA/> or request this information from your child's district or school.

Overall Weighted Points Total	94.0
Overall Grade Conversion	A

Index Score	Grade	Description
90-100	A	Performance substantially exceeds the state's expectations.
80-89.9	B	Performance exceeds the state's expectations.
70-79.9	C	Performance meets the state's expectations.
60-69.9	D	Performance does not meet the state's expectations.
Less than 60	F	Performance is substantially below the state's expectations

Accountability Indicator for Title I Schools

Alston Middle School school has been designated as a:

- ☐ Title I Reward School for Performance - among the highest performing Title I schools in a given year.
- ☐ Title I Reward School for Progress – one of the schools with substantial progress in student subgroups.
- ☐ Title I Focus School – one of the schools with the highest average performance gap between subgroups.
- ☐ Title I Priority School – one of the 5% lowest performing Title I schools.
- ☐ Title I School – does not qualify as Reward, Focus or Priority School.
- ☒ Non-Title I School – therefore the designations above are not applicable.

Teacher Quality and Student Attendance

	Our District	State
Classes in low poverty schools not taught by highly qualified teachers	0.2%	2.6%
Classes in high poverty schools not taught by highly qualified teachers	N/A	5.1%

	Our School	State Objective	Met State Objective
Classes not taught by highly qualified teachers	0.0%	0.0%	Yes
Student attendance rate	96.5%	94.0%*	Yes

* Or greater than last year

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Performance By Group

Subgroups	ELA Mean	Math Mean	Science Mean	Social Studies Mean	ELA % Tested	Math % Tested
Grades 6-8						
All Students	654.9	659.7	640.8	650.1	99.9	99.9
Male	651.4	661.0	645.2	657.9	99.8	99.8
Female	658.4	658.5	636.4	642.0	100.0	100.0
White	669.4	676.0	657.0	661.9	100.0	100.0
African American	636.1	635.8	618.4	630.5	99.7	99.7
Asian/Pacific Islander	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Hispanic	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
American Indian/Alaskan	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Disabled	599.5	610.8	590.0	587.3	98.7	98.7
Limited English Proficient	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Subsidized meals	638.4	642.1	621.9	629.8	100.0	100.0
Annual Measurable Objective (AMO)	624.0	624.0	624.0	624.0	95.0	95.0

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PASS Performance By Grade Level

	Grade	Enrollment 1st Day of Testing	% Tested	% Not Met	% Met	% Exemplary	% Met or Exemplary
English/Language Arts							
2011	3	N/A	N/AV	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
	4	N/A	N/AV	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
	5	N/A	N/AV	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
	6	297	99.7	24.5	35.6	39.9	75.5
	7	299	99.7	31.6	33.5	34.9	68.4
	8	265	100	24.1	37.3	38.6	75.9
2012	3	N/A	N/AV	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
	4	N/A	N/AV	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
	5	N/A	N/AV	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
	6	289	100	25.3	34.3	40.4	74.7
	7	288	99.7	27.8	33.5	38.8	72.2
	8	295	100	22.9	30.8	46.2	77.1
Mathematics							
2011	3	N/A	N/AV	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
	4	N/A	N/AV	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
	5	N/A	N/AV	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
	6	297	99.7	19.1	38.8	42.1	80.9
	7	299	100	30.5	39.3	30.1	69.5
	8	265	100	19.9	38.2	41.9	80.1
2012	3	N/A	N/AV	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
	4	N/A	N/AV	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
	5	N/A	N/AV	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
	6	289	100	20.2	37.5	42.2	79.8
	7	288	99.7	28.9	34.2	36.9	71.1
	8	295	100	21.1	40.1	38.7	78.9
Science							
2011	3	N/A	N/AV	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
	4	N/A	N/AV	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
	5	N/A	N/AV	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
	6	146	100	33.8	52.2	14	66.2
	7	297	99.7	30	44.8	25.2	70
	8	130	99.2	28.4	35.3	36.2	71.6
2012	3	N/A	N/AV	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
	4	N/A	N/AV	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
	5	N/A	N/AV	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
	6	150	100	28.7	58	13.3	71.3
	7	288	99.7	23.2	36.9	39.9	76.8
	8	143	100	17.6	39	43.4	82.4

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PASS Performance By Grade Level

	Grade	Enrollment 1st Day of Testing	% Tested	% Not Met	% Met	% Exemplary	% Met or Exemplary
Social Studies							
2011	3	N/A	N/AV	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
	4	N/A	N/AV	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
	5	N/A	N/AV	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
	6	152	99.3	11.9	50.3	37.8	88.1
	7	298	99.7	43.9	29.2	26.9	56.1
	8	135	100	16.9	33.1	50	83.1
2012	3	N/A	N/AV	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
	4	N/A	N/AV	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
	5	N/A	N/AV	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
	6	140	100	9.6	39.3	51.1	90.4
	7	287	99.7	30.2	33.6	36.3	69.8
	8	152	100	19.6	29.4	51	80.4
Writing							
2011	3	N/A	N/AV	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
	4	N/A	N/AV	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
	5	N/A	N/AV	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
	6	N/A	N/AV	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
	7	N/A	N/AV	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
	8	265	99.3	24.3	38.3	37.4	75.7
2012	3	N/A	N/AV	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
	4	N/A	N/AV	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
	5	N/A	N/AV	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
	6	N/A	N/AV	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
	7	N/A	N/AV	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
	8	300	98.3	17	35.7	47.3	83

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